United Nations A/58/293

General Assembly

Distr.: General
19 August 2003
English
Original: Spanish

General Assembly
Fifty-eighth session
Item 24 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 18 August 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from the Government of the Republic of Panama, I have the honour to inform you of Panama's position on the proposal contained in the letter dated 5 August 2003 that was transmitted to you by the representatives of the Governments of Belize, Burkina Faso, Chad, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, the Gambia, Grenada, Malawi, Nicaragua, Palau, Sao Tome and Principe, the Solomon Islands, Swaziland, and Tuvalu in which they requested the inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly of a supplementary item entitled "Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations" (A/58/197).

As on previous occasions, the Government of Panama wishes to place on record its view that the purposes and principles of the United Nations must be applied to the situation in Taiwan, provided that the Chinese people are able to resolve their differences through dialogue and negotiation without any external interference.

The above-mentioned letter reiterates the desire, shared by us, that the United Nations should constitute the principal means for obtaining, in the shortest time possible, full access to the benefits of our Organization for the population of Taiwan, as well as actively to negotiate a peaceful resolution of the differences between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

The Republic of Panama wishes to reiterate that the question under consideration, being an extremely sensitive domestic issue for the Chinese people, must be resolved through respectful dialogue and mutual understanding; the United Nations can and should encourage that dialogue.

* A/58/150

03-47035 (E) 200803 200803

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly in connection with the request for the inclusion of the "Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations" as a supplementary item in the provisional agenda.

(*Signed*) Mary **Morgan-Moss**
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.